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first reproduce control information required for reproducing the substantial data in
a plurality of available reproduce patterns; and

second reproduce control information required for reproducing the substantial
data in a predetermined reproduce pattern, the predetermined reproduce pattern being one of the
available reproduce patterns, and

wherein the predetermined reproduce pattern is employed for reproducing the
substantial data in two or less channels.

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9. (Amended) An information reproducing apparatus for reproducing an information
recording medium, wherein the information recording medium stores substantial data, first
reproduce control information, and second reproduce control information; the first reproduce
control information is required for reproducing the substantial data in a plurality of available
reproduce patterns including a predetermined reproduce pattern; the predetermined reproduce
pattern is employed for reproducing the substantial data in two or less channels; and the second
reproduce control information is required for reproducing the substantial data in the
predetermined reproduce pattern;

the information reproducing apparatus comprising:
reading means for reading information from the information recording medium; and
reproduce processing means capable of reproducing the substantial data in the
predetermined reproduce pattern, wherein

said reproduce processing means acquires the second reproduce control information prior
to any of the substantial data, stores the thus-acquired second reproduce control information into

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storage means, and plays back the substantial data on the basis of the second reproduce control information.

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10. (Amended) The information reproducing apparatus as defined in Claim 9, wherein the substantial data are divided into one or a plurality of tracks and are defined as one or a plurality of titles, each corresponding to a logical set comprising one or the plurality of tracks; the information reproducing apparatus further comprising means for specifying a track to be reproduced; and the reproduce processing means acquires information relating to the thus-specified track from the second reproduce control information stored in the storage means.

11. (Amended) A signal embodied in a carrier wave comprising: substantial data to be reproduced independently of one another, and reproduce control information for reproducing the substantial data, the reproduce control information comprising:
first reproduce control information required for reproducing the substantial data in a plurality of available reproduce patterns; and
second reproduce control information required for reproducing the substantial data in a predetermined reproduce pattern which is one of the available reproduce patterns; wherein the predetermined reproduce pattern is employed for reproducing the substantial data in two or less channels.

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19. (Amended) The information recording medium as defined in Claim 1, wherein the second reproduce control information is utilized for an unsophisticated audio player.

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20. (Amended) The signal as defined in Claim 11, wherein the second reproduce control information is utilized for an unsophisticated audio player.

Please add the following new claims:

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21. (New) A method of reproducing information from an information recording medium, wherein the information recording medium stores substantial data, first reproduce control information, and second reproduce control information; the first reproduce control information is required for reproducing the substantial data in a plurality of available reproduce patterns including a predetermined reproduce pattern; the predetermined reproduce pattern is employed for reproducing the substantial data in two or less channels; and the second reproduce control information is required for reproducing the substantial data in the predetermined reproduce pattern;

the method comprising:

reading information from the information recording medium; and

reproducing the substantial data in the predetermined pattern by acquiring the second reproduce control information prior to any of the substantial data, storing the thus-acquired second reproduce control information, and playing back the substantial data on the basis of the second reproduce control information.

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22. (New) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

dividing the substantial data into one or a plurality of tracks and are defined as one or a plurality of titles, each corresponding to a logical set comprising one or the plurality of tracks;
specifying a track to be reproduced; and
acquiring information relating to the thus-specified track from the second reproduce control information stored.

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23. (New) A method of reproducing information from an information recording medium, wherein the information recording medium stores substantial data, first reproduce control information, and second reproduce control information; the first reproduce control information is required for reproducing the substantial data in a plurality of available reproduce patterns including a predetermined reproduce pattern; the predetermined reproduce pattern is employed for reproducing the substantial data in two or less channels; and the second reproduce control information is required for reproducing the substantial data in the predetermined reproduce pattern;

the method comprising:

acquiring the first reproduce control information from the information recording medium;
reading the substantial data from the information recording medium; and
reproducing the substantial data on the basis of the first reproduce control information.

24. (New) The method of claim 23, further comprising:

dividing the substantial data into one or a plurality of tracks and are defined as one or a plurality of titles, each corresponding to a logical set comprising one or the plurality of tracks; specifying a track to be reproduced; and acquiring information relating to the thus-specified track from the second reproduce control information stored.

25. (New) An information reproducing apparatus for reproducing an information recording medium, wherein the information recording medium stores substantial data; first reproduce control information is required for reproducing the substantial data in a plurality of available reproduce patterns including a predetermined reproduce pattern; the predetermined reproduce pattern is employed for reproducing the substantial data in two or less channels; and the second reproduce control information is required for reproducing the substantial data in the predetermined reproduce pattern, the information reproducing apparatus comprising:

a first acquiring circuit that acquires the first reproduce control information from the information recording medium;

a reading circuit that reads the substantial data from the information recording medium;

and

a reproducing circuit that reproduces the substantial data on the basis of the first reproduce control information.

26. (New) The information reproducing apparatus of claim 25, further comprising:

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a dividing circuit that divides the substantial data into one or a plurality of tracks and are defined as one or a plurality of titles, each corresponding to a logical set comprising one or the plurality of tracks;

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a specifying circuit that specifies a track to be reproduced; and

a second acquiring circuit that acquires information relating to the thus-specified track from the second reproduce control information stored.
